

**The Times-Dispatch**

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# THE FIRST FRUITS OF TAX REFORM.

Eleven districts in eleven counties which receive more revenue from the State than they pay into it have just returned decided increases in assessments for tangible and intangible property. One county, King William, which pays into the State treasury more than it receives from it, has similarly accounted for itself. One city, Buena Vista, reports a decided decrease in tangible property, but marked increases in intangible property and in incomes assessed. Indications are that income assessments will be greatly multiplied. Auditor of Public Accounts Moore, taking the reports which have been made to him as a basis for calculation, is of the opinion that the increase in personal property values will amount to 25 per cent.

The returns are distinctly encouraging, although it is too early to ascertain whether or not they indicate a general elevation of assessments throughout the State. If they do not, there is a remedy which Auditor Moore can and will apply. Where there are decreases, he will send the reports of the commissioners of the revenue to the local courts for correction and investigation by the grand juries. From the data at hand, it is evident that some, at least, of the commissioners have been more inquisitive and more efficient in the discharge of their duty.

No matter what future returns may reveal, the vigorous agitation for just assessments has borne fruit. Some of the taxpayers are aroused to the necessity for performing their duty. The aggressive campaign conducted by Auditor of Public Accounts Moore for fair assessments, the investigations by the grand juries, and the indignation of the people over the disclosures made through the press, are achieving results. The State is conscious of the inequality and the injustices of the present tax system; it is demanding that just and equitable reform shall be established. Results have just begun to manifest themselves.

# VOICES FOR NEW VIRGINIA.

Another new and progressive paper has felt the stirrings of what we recently called the "New Virginia Spirit," and we welcome the Marion American into the ranks, now steadily growing, of newspapers that realize the need for freedom and courage in the fight for a better State. This little voice from Smyth County has the right ring of sound of faith based on principle, and we trust that its first proclamations may be the platform of a daily and inspired preaching of the new gospel.

The American is right when it declares that the new spirit is "in most respects a return to the old spirit" that prevailed in the Commonwealth when patriots and statesmen directed its affairs. It is but the rebirth of the ideals that made this State the mother not only of Presidents, but the mother of men who could formulate and promulgate the Bill of Rights and give their hearts, their minds and their lives to the establishment of a government by the people. This in truth is the new spirit. The Times-Dispatch believes in reviving in our hearts. We are not reviving the State, or fanning our own nest, or belittling the great and noble traditions that make Virginia a name in the history of human progress. We are asking that the new generation live up to this ancient fame. Not many months ago we scornfully repudiated the charge that Virginia was servile. Yet we had to admit that Virginia was asleep.

Now there are signs of waking. Such leaders as this newcomer in our journalism give us a larger hope. Enough papers of this kind to kindle the flame and throw broad the light, and no league of dark and silent powers will long be able to check the irresistible demand of the people for full share in their own government, and all of those gifts that a modern Commonwealth can bestow on its citizens. Every time we hear such a cry of courage and brotherhood, we find ourselves afire for bigger service.

Let the howling dogs bay the moon. Sooner or later we are bound to win, for we fight on the side of right. We are glad to stand shoulder to shoulder with crusaders like this. We quote this text from its pages as a challenge and an invitation to every paper in the State.

May the "new spirit" neither wait nor falter, but may it be accelerated and utilized for the redemption of the State from unworthy and inefficient rule. The American—the babe of Virginia Journalism—will be glad to join The Times-Dispatch and all other good-intentioned Virginia journals in helping to promote the "new spirit."

# ARE YOU "GOOD-INTENTIONED"?

THE GOVERNOR AND THE TIGER. William Sulzer, Governor of New York, gains favor in public opinion as time presses on. To the spectator at the Baltimore Democratic Convention he seemed the very personification of demagoguery in his green and dusty derby, his uncut hair, his whole manner and his speech. He did not look like an important member of Congress.

Doubtless he uses much of the art and more of the guile of the demagogue still, but his brave break with Tammany and his valiant though fruitless fight for direct primaries in New York win the admiration and the commendation of all right-minded men. Somewhat a creature of Tammany in days gone by, and undoubtedly aided powerfully by it in his election to the office he now holds, he has had the good courage to cast his lot with the people when the hour of decision struck.

The claws of the tiger have left their revengeful imprint. Tammany has fought him at every turn since he chose to stand by his guns. Tammany has accused him falsely. Tammany went back three decades to try to prove him a lawless unethical practice, but failed. Tammany accused him of double-dealing, but could not prove it. Cowering before the tiger, the Legislature of New York has twice defeated the Sulzer direct primaries measure.

Is Tammany behind the latest assault upon the character of Sulzer? "Merely another story started by my enemies" is his comment upon the breach of promise suit brought against him by Mignon Hopkins, a Philadelphia cloak model, who alleges that in 1903 Sulzer contracted to wed her. Strange, is it not, that she delayed ten years to file the action? Strange, is it not, that she should have brought it just when Tammany is doing its utmost to discredit Sulzer, blacken his character and ruin his career? Strange, is it not, that similar breach of promise suits in many instances have been brought against public men similarly situated?

Even if this woman adduces evidence to sustain her contentions, it will be difficult for her to explain why she has waited so long. Even if she proves her case, the people will want to know whether or not Tammany consulted her in the matter beforehand. The tricks of the tiger are wearing out. The masked batteries of bosses and machines are not as deadly as they used to be. The people are not fools; they understand.

# HARMONY PLUS ACTION.

Major Ainslie's "water party" was a great success. There was harmony enough to benevolently reunite the Bull Moose and the standpat. Good feeling reigned, and some officials saw the water works for the first time in months. This is pleasant, and should be conducive to co-operation. Yet we must not forget that co-operation means working together. You cannot co-operate in a vacuum, and harmony without results is a waste of time. What are these various gentlemen and boards and officers going to do to improve the water system?

For the sake of clearness, we desire to restate the points made by Dr. Levy in his letter to the Mayor.

The water should be pumped into the New Reservoir and then into the standpipe, instead of from the flume into the standpipe, to gain several days of sedimentation.

There should be a quick and efficient method of closing the intake gates after heavy rains. Electric control is suggested. What is to be done about this?

The drainage of the water works region should be changed to direct all surface water out of the water supply. This means that no drainage from the driveway around the Reservoir, or from the right of way of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, should flow into any basin. Certainly protective measures here can be begun at once.

Some means should be provided for carrying off excess water from the canal after rains without opening communication with the river.

At all times a sufficient amount of alum should be introduced into the water to make it as clear as possible and so prevent the turbidity that sometimes occurs.

A permanent hypochlorite plant should be provided. Steps have already been taken to investigate this need and supply the plant by fall.

These things have to do with the purity of our water. Distribution and pressure also call for attention. The Mayor has recommended the employment of a trained water engineer to study the present distribution system and make plans for enlarging and supplementing it. This should be done. The pressure in certain thickly built regions is now insufficient to meet the possible emergency demands in case of a great fire. The insurance standing of Richmond is lowered by this weak water pressure. Plans for permanent improvements are in order.

These appear to be suggestions that must not be overlooked. They will cost money and require skilled help. These are the facts on which the harmony has to work. Let us now have a business session of the departments to map out what they are going to do.

# REBUKE FALSE CHARGES.

Richmond should not be ashamed to have its faults published to the world, only by learning of evils can we correct them. Richmond is perfectly right, however, in refusing to be saddled with a lot of false charges against its police force, coming from a naval officer who sets himself up as a critic and gets very much wrought up over nothing. The Times-Dispatch trusts that Mayor Ainslie's sharp repudiation of the insinuation that our police force delayed the trial of United States sailors so that it might get the reward for apprehending deserters will wake up the naval authorities to the need for reparation.

The facts appear to be that Richmond policemen had nothing at all to do with the arrest or detention of these two men. They were jailed in Henrico County at the instigation of Chesapeake and Ohio officers, and refusing to give any information as to their true names and occupation, the men were handled in the regular routine. Had they informed the authorities of their naval status, we doubt not that they would have been turned over to the late Lieutenant Bradley. This gentleman seems to have stirred up a

hornet's nest, in a useless and unimportant way, and we agree with Mayor Ainslie that it would probably be for the good of the service were he given a lesson.

The Police Department may have its faults, just as the navy has. Of these, petty grafting has never been shown to exist. The good name of the city should be protected against gratuitous attacks.

# VERY CLOSE TO GETTYSBURG.

A few days ago an old soldier in Ohio, who was at Gettysburg fifty years ago, received his transportation to attend the celebration now in progress upon that world-famed field of battle. He returned it to the Governor of Ohio with the information that, although he was at Gettysburg on the day of the fight, he took no part in it, because he was a paroled prisoner. He was a noncombatant, and so with strict and scrupulous regard for truth, he felt that he could not honorably accept what he thought the State meant for combatants alone. When Governor Cox received the old fellow's letter, he immediately returned the transportation, and invited the old soldier to accompany the Ohio contingent as the guest of the State.

The action of the executive can meet with no dissent. It was a noble thing to honor this man who refused to accept a favor inspired by a false impression. He could have gone on, had a great time and come home to tell about it, and nobody would have thought that he was not entitled to the trip. The return of the transportation was a little thing perhaps, but "it was in the essence of the matter as big a thing as being in the battle," says the Ohio State Journal, in whose further sentiment we most heartily concur. "It has got to be one of the bravest things in human experience for a man not to take advantage of a circumstance coming his way. If we had a universal citizenship of this character, this nation wouldn't need an army or navy. It could whip all creation with its little finger. All the pageantry and glittering ceremony at Gettysburg this week will not blind the infirmity to the glory of this latest hero of Gettysburg."

The conscientiousness of this venerable and honorable man shines out even more brightly when it is morally certain that there are many at Gettysburg now as veterans of the battle who never saw Gettysburg before. There are braggarts who now wear the blue and who now wear the gray, who have done most of their fighting since the termination of hostilities. Camp followers and home guards have been ripened by the passage of time into captains who charged into the cannon's mouth. Colonel Mosby said at a reunion of the Mosby Rangers a year or so ago that he met there several "rangers" that he never saw before, and doubtless the same thing is true across Masen and Dixon's line.

# EXPOSED BY THE WATER-COOLER GRAPH.

Was the House of Delegates of the last General Assembly really dry? Was the Senate really wet? Whatever the political deponents say on this question, the figures furnished by the legislative water-cooler settle it for all time. In the latest annual report of the Auditor of Public Accounts, Table 37, are detailed the contingent expenses of both the Senate and the House, and there we find that the amount paid out for water for the Senate was exactly \$12, while for the House of Delegates it was \$76.55.

Could there be more convincing proof of the dryness of the House and the wetness of the Senate, we ask you, fellow-citizens? By their thirst ye shall know them. The cold, bitter, terrible fact is that the expenditure for water for each Senator was but 36 cents, while for each Delegate it was more than 70 cents. Each Delegate drank 2 1/2 times as much water as each Senator. The House is vindicated and the Senate stands indicted.

Some smart Alecs may rise to inquire whether the greatest thirst is always induced by nature, but "biggers is bigger." "The State Board of Education was constituted as it is and given the powers it possesses in order to take the school system of Virginia out of politics. Therefore, it is rather surprising to learn that Attorney-General Williams interrogates candidates for the office of division superintendent as to their political predilections," declares the Harrisonburg News-Record.

Don't forget the hot weather don'ts.

President Wilson has a most modest Cabinet. A prominent Richmond business man called us up yesterday to ask who is Secretary of War.

The calamity howler who suggested that there are germs in the julep supply should be brought to book.

A lobby scandal develops when the people find out what the politicians have known all the time.

The man who invents an instantaneous cure for the conflagration known as sunburn will earn the everlasting gratitude of all summer vacationists.

The newspapers of Virginia that believe in the freedom of the press should exercise a little of said freedom in crusading against the evils present in their own communities. Truth-telling begins at home.

Richmond is a hospital centre, but it has no floating hospital yet.

Everybody's doin' it. Doin' what? Lookin' at the thermometer.

Jack Johnson has gone from the United States, and we hope he'll keep on going.

Colonel Tankard L. Littleberry, of Lowhatan, at the urgent request of many friends, is "threatenin'" to run for the House of Delegates.

# On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

The June Trip. He holds her little hand in his, "There ain't no hand so nice like her'n." Her digits he yearns to imprison. And makes good each and every yearn. The relatives all watch and blubber. The train has been due for an hour; The natives stand around and rubber. Bekuz it is a weddin' tower.

The Great American Stomach. Dr. Woods Hutchinson says there is nothing the matter with the American stomach. This is reassuring certainly, but it simply bears out the ancient precept that the average stomach will lead a blameless life if only it is treated with respect and consideration. It has often been said that the stomach of a baby is keyed up to a continuous performance, but when a person ceases to be a baby should cut out the continuous performance feature and adopt a program which calls for meals three times a day.

You may have met the man who will load up on lobster a la Newburg, Japanese crab meat, mild de mission and champagne, and when he gets up in the morning feeling like the fag end of a misspent life, with his head revolving like a motion picture reel and his tongue the size of a Vienna loaf he will straightway lay all the blame on his stomach. The same results can be achieved with fried tripe and beer.

The man who acquires what Mr. Edison terms a "good jaw" and then suffers a mild form of indigestion believes that nature has handed him a worn-out stomach. He has to learn that a stomach is only a stomach. It is not a 5,000-horsepower battleship engine, a model locomotive. A man will not expect the thrashing engine of his automobile. When making a heavy grade he puts it into secondary speed, but he will make all sorts of logical excuses for it. When his stomach fails he condemns his stomach.

Dr. Hutchinson is right. There is nothing the matter with the American stomach. There is, however, something the matter with a good many Americans who abuse them.

# From the Hickeyville Clarion.

Uncle Ezra Harkins doesn't smoke all the time. He never smokes when he is eating or sleeping. Anse Frisling couldn't afford to buy a screech owl whistle for his automobile so he takes a cat along with him and when he wants a body to get out'n the way he steps on her tail.

Levi Higgins, the best puzzle guesser in this county, who has taken several newspaper prizes, went crazy this week when he tried to figure out a new railroad time table.

Bud Hicks received some sad news this week. His wife had been collecting alimony from the divorcee's husband and one of them died the other day. If that sort of thing keeps up Bud will have to go to work.

One idea of reciprocity is to send him a pair of socks. The Sunday and Richmond and Forest Hill mail carriers got one pair each. Ez Harkins sent his only shirt last week and they sent him back a corset cover and Ez has been wearin' his coat buttoned up tight around his chin.

There is nothing in this world that has caused so many matrimonial accidents as the kissin' games at the church socials. Ane Hilliker went to one twenty-seven years ago. The next day he went and borrowed \$7 and got married and he has been borrowin' money ever since.

# Bromides.

"This town is too small for you old man. You should go to New York."

"I want to tell you, the new tariff bill is certainly going to raise hell."

"I don't care to drive an automobile. They are becoming so dreadful common."

"My daughter has got a beautiful toy car. The mechanics have been trying to get her into grand opera, but she prefers to stay at home with us."

# Voice of the People

An Argument for a Union Station. To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir.—It doesn't require a very brilliant intellect to see the great advantage that would accrue to both the city and the railroads from the establishment of a union passenger station at a central and accessible location in Richmond.

While a railway company may have an especial reason for not admitting these advantages, at least one railway official opposing the union station, Mr. Duke of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railway, has admitted them, when, on being questioned by the Chamber of Commerce, he frankly stated that he thought a union passenger station an excellent thing and more so than to the public. At the same time he acknowledged that it was not feasible to have a union passenger station to be reached by all railways entering Richmond, at the Hermitage.

# FLIES!

Horse manure is the principal hatching place for flies.

It can be made sterile with coal oil, carbolic acid, copperas water or dry larch by mixing thoroughly.

Horsemen, stablemen, owners of horses and sanitary inspectors, pay attention! Cut this out.

Let 1913 be a flyless year.

# Abe Martin



There's still a few people tryin' to find a good dollar-a-day hotel. They feller that goes three days without makin' any enemies is never round shouldered from carryin' money.

# JOYS AND GLOOMS!

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# site, selected by the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company.

This is a matter that should be considered from the standpoint of the greatest good for the greatest number. A probable commercial advantage to any particular section, or the convenience of the people of any particular section, should not have a vestige of influence in the selection of the site. The interest of the city at large and the comfort and convenience of all the people should be the controlling factors in the selection of the site. The site at Fifteenth and Main Street, east of Harrison Street, Church Hill, South Street, and Forest Hill, has been considered along with all other sections of the city in the selection of the union passenger station site.

A union station at Fifteenth and Main, a West End substation at the intersection of the Boulevard and the Main Street, and a Potomac and Seaboard Air Line tracks, all of which are possible and feasible, will afford accessible and convenient passenger depot facilities for all parts of the city.

The officials of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac and Atlantic Coast Line Railway Company, on various occasions, urged the statement against the Fifteenth and Main Street site that voters to the city go direct from the station to the hotels, and that the station should be convenient to the hotels. A thorough investigation by Mr. Walters, of the Atlantic Coast Line, will affect the hotels as compared with the site at Fifteenth and Main Street. The nine hotels of the city are distant in miles by street car from the Hermitage site as follows:

The Jefferson, 1.04 miles; Murphy's, 2.29 miles; The Richmond, 2.29 miles; St. James, 2.29 miles; The Lexington, 2.29 miles; The Commercial, 2.49 miles; Gilbert's, 2.34 miles; Guerrant, 1.11 miles.

The average distance from the Hermitage site to the nine hotels is 2.31 miles. The nine hotels are distant in miles by street car from the Fifteenth and Main Street site as follows:

The Jefferson, 1.04 miles; Murphy's, 2.29 miles; The Richmond, 2.29 miles; St. James, 2.29 miles; The Lexington, 2.29 miles; The Commercial, 2.49 miles; Gilbert's, 2.34 miles; Guerrant, 1.11 miles.

The average distance from the Fifteenth and Main Street site to the nine hotels is 1.55 miles. In other words, the nine hotels are distant from the Fifteenth and Main Street site a half mile, and from the Hermitage site two and one-third miles. The hotel argument by the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac officials thus on investigation proves a boomerang for the Hermitage site.

How does the street car service to the hotels from the two sites compare? From the Fifteenth and Main Street site, direct and indirect, the street car service to all the hotels. To reach the Jefferson and Guerrant Hotels from the Hermitage site, in addition to having to travel two miles visitors would be required to transfer to the street car. The number of cars now passing the Fifteenth and Main Street site is 1,550 per day. When the new Hull Street bridge is completed and Fifteenth Street is widened, the Hull Street car can go up Fifteenth Street to Broad and down Seventh, thus affording direct street car service from Richmond to the union station. Again, as recommended by Colonel Burghwyn, all of the Broad Street cars can be brought down Fifteenth Street, past the union station and go back to Broad via Eighteenth. This would put practically every car in the city by the union station except the Forest Hill, Westhampton and Ginter Park cars.

Every business man realizes the importance of facilitating the receipt and dispatch of the mails. When a government expert came down from Washington to determine upon the site for the new Richmond post-office he found some division among the Richmond people as to where it should be located. On this occasion this government expert said: "Show me where you are going to put your union depot and I will show you where the post-office should be." It is of great advantage to the post-office officials, in their efforts to handle the mails as quickly as possible, to be located near the station. The Hermitage site is distant from the post-office 2.56 miles. From the Fifteenth and Main Street site, the post-office is distant 31 miles. In the one case the distance is over two and one-half miles, and in the other less than one-third of a mile. These figures speak for themselves, and need no comment.

# Investigation will show that the Hermitage site is not selected as a union station.

The site at Fifteenth and Main Street, east of Harrison Street, Church Hill, South Street, and Forest Hill, has been considered along with all other sections of the city in the selection of the union passenger station site.

This union station matter is one that can be brought to a successful conclusion only by the Richmond people standing shoulder to shoulder as one man and asking Mr. Walters, of the Atlantic Coast Line, to run his trains through the Main Street station.

There is only one man to convince, and that is Mr. Henry W. Walters, of Baltimore, who is running him. Give Richmond a grand union station at Fifteenth and Main and a West End substation at the intersection of the Boulevard and the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac tracks. If he sees that the 150,000 people of Richmond are in earnest and are speaking as one man in this matter he will comply with their request and make facilities the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac will locate there, as a matter of course.

A few ill-advised persons and some possibly actuated by local and selfish motives can in this matter do the city an irreparable harm. Nothing but a united public sentiment among the 150,000 people of this city can secure the passenger depot which Richmond deserves and should have.

Now, let us make a long pull, a strong pull and a pull altogether. Success will surely come. What chance has one mind to withstand when 150,000 people are united against it? A CITIZEN WITH NO GRIND, BUT ZEALOUS FOR HIS CITY'S ADVANCEMENT.

# AN EQUESTRIAN STATUE TO STONEWALL JACKSON

The Stonewall Jackson Monument Association, of Richmond, Va., has begun a movement for the erection in that city of an equestrian statue to the great Confederate leader. In all the years since Jackson first attracted the attention of the world by his signal service at the first battle of Manassas, no equestrian statue in his honor has been raised in the old capital of the Confederacy. Rev. J. Power Smith, president of the association, points out. But it has now been determined that this long-deferred tribute shall be provided, and that "every Southern man, woman and child" shall have "the privilege of making a contribution and having his or her name and address deposited in the corner-stone as one of its builders."

An adequate memorial of Jackson is needed in Richmond, and if placed in Capital Square would make a notable addition to the striking and noble group of emblems.

There are thousands of people in Maryland, and throughout the country, we believe, who would be glad to be numbered among the contributors, for Jackson is one of the Civil War figures who grows larger the longer he is studied, and who makes an extraordinary appeal to the popular as well as to the military imagination. He was as strong and singular in character as he was unusual and masterful in genius, and it will require an artist of true inspiration to produce a result worthy of the original. Such an artist, we have no doubt, will be found, for such a subject should find artistic ambition, and such a task properly executed will place the sculptor who does it in the Hall of Fame. What Jackson was in character and soul innumerable writers have tried to describe with more or less success, leaving many of us still seeing him as through a glass darkly. What he was in a military sense we know from the almost universal belief that had he not fallen at Chancellorsville the battle of Gettysburg either would never have occurred, or would have had a different termination.

We are glad to see this tardy tribute to this wonderful American soldier. His fame does not need it, but until he is properly represented in Richmond one of the greatest of Virginia's sons will be missing from the sculptured array of soldiers and statesmen that have gathered at her capital as mute but impressive witnesses of the things which she has done and the ideals for which she stands.—Baltimore Sun.

# Checking Accounts

Enhance your standing with business men. Handling money by check evidences that you are systematic in your affairs. We invite checking accounts, large or small. We also accept savings from \$1.00 upwards, upon which 3 per cent interest is paid. Your patronage is cordially invited.

# National State and City Bank

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